

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

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TAGS: SCUL

SUBJECT: POSSIBILITY OF ELECTRONIC DIALOGUE BETWEEN MINISTER
OF NATIONAL PLANNING GUMERSINDO RODRIGUEZ AND
NOBEL PRIZE WINNER PROFESSOR VASALY LEONTIEF

1. AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, MINISTER OF PLANNING RODRIGUEZ
SEVERAL MONTHS AGO APPROACHED ME RE POSSIBILITY OF INVITING
PROFESSOR LEONTIEF TO VENEZUELA TO REVIEW THEIR NATIONAL PLANNING
PROCESS. I WAS YESTERDAY INFORMED BY PUBLIC AFFAIRS COUNSELOR
HIGGINS THAT USIA HAS SUCCESSFULLY USED ELECTRONIC DIALOGUE PROCESS
IN ITALY, AND WE DISCUSSED POSSIBILITIES OF LEONTIEF AND RODRIGUEZ
(WHO SPEAKS EXCELLENT ENGLISH) HAVING A CONFAB BETWEEN CARACAS
AND CAMBRIDGE.

2. TODAY AT THE SPECIAL LUNCHEON OF THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE, AT WHICH RODRIGUEZ WAS THE SPEAKER, I SAT BETWEEN HIM
AND HIS DIRECTOR GENERAL, HELLY TINEO, AND INQUIRED IF IN FACT THEY
MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN SUCH A DIALOGUE. BOTH WERE ENTHUSIASTIC
AT THE PROSPECT AND ASKED IF I WOULD USE MY GOOD OFFICES NOT ONLY WITH

USIA BUT PARTICULARLY WITH PROFESSOR LEONTIEF TO SET UP SUCH A COLLOGUY.

RODRIGUEZ SAID THAT OF COURSE HE WOULD SEND A LIST OF QUESTIONS FOR
THE PROFESSOR'S CONSIDERATION BEFORE THE CONVERSATION TOOK PLACE.

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3. TINEO AND RODRIGUEZ WERE SO ENTHUSIASTIC OVER THE USIA VTR FILM

ON PROFESSOR LEONTIEF WHICH I SHOWED THE DIRECTOR GENERAL RECENTLY
AT MY HOUSE THAT THE MINISTER SAID HE HOPE WE COULD GET A SPANISH
TRANSCRIPTION OF THE FILM BECAUSE HE WANTED TO SHOW IT TO
PRESIDENT CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ IN PERSON.

4. WE VERY MUCH HOPE THAT PROFESSOR LEONTIEF WILL BE WILLING TO
COOPERATE IN THIS EFFORT, WHICH SURELY WILL CONDUCE TO BETTER RELATIONS

BETWEEN VENEZUELA AND THE UNITED STATES. COUNSELOR HIGGINS WILL
TAKE UP THIS MATTER DIRECTLY WITH HIS AGENCY IN WASHINGTON. IF
SUCH A DIALOGUE CAN BE ARRANGED, I AM FAIRLY CERTAIN THAT
PRESIDENT CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ WOULD WANT TO SEE IT AT MIRAFLORES
PALACE.
MCCLINTOCK

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